

# Memo

To: Board of Selectmen  
From: William G. Keegan, Jr., Town Administrator  
CC: Assistant Town Administrator, Director of Finance  
Date: September 18, 2012  
Re: Town Administrator's Report for Thursday, September 13, 2012

---

It's been a busy Summer and the Fall promises to be just as hectic. However there is lots of progress to report on many different fronts.

1. Dedham has been named one of the “**Top 100 Communities in the United States for Young People**”. Thanks to the combined efforts of many different Town and School programs and special thanks to the leadership of Youth Commission Director, Rob Blaney and the members of his Team, the Town of Dedham applied for and was selected for this consideration working in collaboration with America's Promise Alliance and ING U.S Two weeks ago Dedham was selected as a finalist for this consideration and yesterday afternoon (Wednesday, September 12) Dedham was selected as one of the winners of this coveted title. For winning this recognition Dedham will receive a nice trophy, a check for \$2500 to be used for Youth Programs and signage that can be distributed around the community. Congratulations to everyone who participated in this process as we are all very proud of this accomplishment.
2. The Dedham Library Director, Dr. Marianne Tricarico announced last week that the Draft Strategic Plan for the Library is now complete and will be submitted to the Dedham Library Trustees for consideration at their meeting on September 18<sup>th</sup>.
3. Applications for the **Annual Ken Pickard Memorial Innovation Award** are now open and I have been asking Departments and Boards for their ideas for consideration. The Board will recall that the Town has won this award previously but we are now looking for a second title. The Award is given

annually by the Mass. Municipal Association for innovative ideas in Local Government.

4. The Facilities Director has announced that we are working on a schedule for installation of a new town and school wide phone system. The system is expected to be installed and fully operational by December of this year.
5. The 2012/2013 School Year started on Wednesday, September 5<sup>th</sup> and the start went off without any major incidents or delays. The School and Police Department did not report any issues for the first week so we are off to a good start despite concerns over possible delays due to construction in the Square and despite the start of the first full year at the new Avery School.
6. The Building Department reports that additions and improvements to the Nobles Greenough School and to the Dedham Country Day Schools are substantially complete. The improvements at the Dedham Country Day School were open for the new school year.
7. The Fred Astaire Dance Studio has taken over the space once occupied by the Fiddlesticks Theater located at 619 High Street.
8. On Tuesday, September 11, 2012, New Bridge on the Charles invited myself and State Representative Paul McMurtry to the birthday celebration of the Over 90 residents at their facility. The Town has a similar celebration for the Town's residents who have reached this milestone. Both are exceptional events are most enjoyable to attend. I find this to be a golden opportunity to learn some valuable history about some of our most celebrated residents.
9. Following up on the presentation that GIS Manager Leon Scott made to the Board last month concerning the new technology that is available in his Division, a training session is planned for September 25<sup>th</sup> for staff members to learn how to utilize these new applications by using iPads and iPhones.
10. Dedham Day is planned for September 30, 2012.